Appl. No. : 10/623,482 Filed : July 18, 2003

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

- 1-37. (Canceled).
- 38. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a layer, of an insulating silicon compound, having a desired thickness for an integrated circuit, comprising:

performing multiple chemical vapor deposition cycles in a reaction chamber, each cycle comprising:

first, depositing a silicon layer on a substrate by exposing the substrate to a silicon source, wherein the silicon layer has a silicon layer thickness between about 3 Å and 25 Å, wherein depositing the silicon layer is performed under mass transport limited deposition conditions; and

second, reacting the silicon layer to partially form the layer of an insulating silicon compound, wherein trisilane is the silicon source used to deposit a first silicon layer on the substrate in a first performance of a cycle of the plurality of cycles, wherein the silicon-containing compound layer has a thickness non-uniformity of about 5% or less and a step coverage of about 80% or greater.

- (Original) The method of Claim 38, wherein reacting comprises nitriding and wherein the insulating silicon compound is silicon nitride.
- 40. (Original) The method of Claim 39, wherein the layer of an insulating silicon compound has a stoichiometry of about 43 silicon atoms per 56 nitrogen atoms.
- 41. (Original) The method of Claim 38, wherein reacting comprises oxidizing and wherein the insulating silicon compound is silicon oxide.
 - 42. (Cancelled).
- 43. (Original) The method of Claim 42, wherein the silicon source for depositing subsequent silicon layers after depositing the first silicon layer comprises a silicon compound selected from the group consisting of silanes having a silane chemical formula Si_nH_{2n+2} , where n=1 to 4, and halosilanes having a halosilane chemical formula $R_{4-X}SiH_X$, where R=Cl, Br or I and X=0 to 3.
- 44. (Original) The method of Claim 43, wherein all silicon layers deposited after the first silicon layer are formed with the same silicon source.

Appl. No. : 10/623,482 Filed : July 18, 2003

45. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 105, wherein a first substrate temperature for depositing the first silicon layer is less than about 525°C.

- (Original) The method of Claim 45, wherein the first substrate temperature is less than about 475°C.
- 47. (Original) The method of Claim 46, wherein a second substrate temperature for reacting the first silicon layer is greater than the first substrate temperature.
- 48. (Original) The method of Claim 47, wherein depositing and reacting are performed isothermally after reacting the first silicon layer.
- (Original) The method of Claim 48, wherein a third substrate temperature for depositing and reacting, after reacting the first silicon layer, is between about 400°C and 650°C.
- (Original) The method of Claim 49, wherein the third substrate temperature is greater than about 525°C.
- 51. (Original) The method of Claim 47, further comprising evacuating the reaction chamber for at least about 10 seconds before reacting the first silicon layer.
- (Original) The method of Claim 47, wherein the first silicon layer has a first silicon layer thickness of about 8-12 Å.
- 53. (Original) The method of Claim 52, wherein a temperature and a duration for reacting are chosen to prevent reacting the substrate under the silicon layer.
- (Original) The method of Claim 52, wherein reacting the silicon layer comprises exposing the silicon layer to an atomic species.
- 55. (Original) The method of Claim 54, wherein the atomic species is atomic nitrogen.
- (Original) The method of Claim 38, wherein the reaction chamber is a single substrate laminar flow reaction chamber.
 - 57-104. (Cancelled).
- 105. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 38, wherein a temperature for reacting is less than about 650° C.
- 106. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 38, wherein a thickness of the first silicon layer on the substrate is about greater than or equal to a nitridation saturation depth.